

ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MARCH 2021

## Keeping Our Promises

Alameda CTC is keeping our promises of delivering projects and programs while supporting jobs and the economy. I am ensuring that the agency continues to perform strategic planning, develop projects and implement programs, move projects into construction, and process payments to our cities, the county, transit agencies and business partners during this pandemic. Our work is an important part of the economic recovery.

Thank you,

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## Project Updates

### Construction in 2021

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) and Caltrans have jumpstarted 2021 with Caltrans awarding the [SR-84 from South of Ruby Hill Drive to I-680 and SR-84/I-680 Interchange Improvements](#) project. The project, a named project in the 2014 Measure BB Transportation Expenditure Plan, was awarded by Caltrans to Bay Cities Paving & Grading, Inc. on February 19, 2021. Work will:

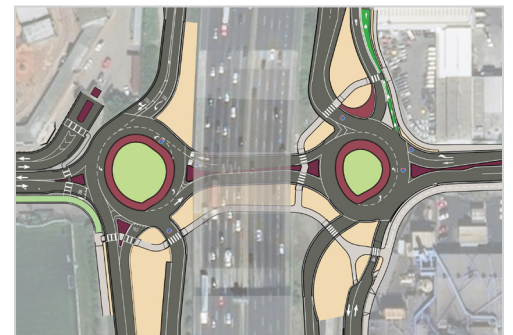
- Modernize and conform State Route 84 (SR-84) to expressway standards between Ruby Hill Drive and the Interstate 680 (I-680) interchange
- Improve the SR-84/I-680 interchange ramps
- Extend the existing I-680 southbound express lane northward by two miles
- Add bike lanes along SR-84 and under I-680

To date, Alameda CTC has invested \$123.4 million in Measure BB dollars to deliver this estimated \$244 million project, leveraging \$119.5 million (49 percent) of external funding, including \$85 million in Regional Measure 3.

On the heels of the SR-84 from South of Ruby Hill Drive to I-680 and SR-84/I-680 Interchange Improvements project is the long-awaited \$65.5 million [Interstate 80/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement](#) project.

**Phase 1** will construct a new bicycle/pedestrian bridge overcrossing on Interstate 80 (I-80) just south of the Gilman Street Interchange. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2021.

**Phase 2** will construct two roundabouts at the Gilman Street Interchange and improve approximately one mile of bicycle/pedestrian facility to connect the many businesses and public facilities in the area. Alameda CTC is scheduled to request an allocation of nearly \$22 million in construction funding this June from the California Transportation Commission for Phase 2. Construction is scheduled to begin in fall 2021.



Rendering of I-80/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement project design elements.

Both phases of the I-80/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement project are targeted for completion in 2023.

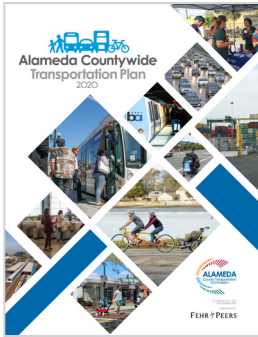
Alameda CTC and its partners continue to prioritize project delivery for 2021. For more information on these and other Alameda CTC projects, visit the [Projects webpage](#).

## Planning and Program Updates

### Initial implementation actions for the 2020 Countywide Transportation Plan

Since the November 2020 adoption of the 2020 Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP), staff have been working on the first set of implementation actions that are now integrated in the agency workplan for 2021.

These actions include working closely with the Programming team to ensure that the CTP goals and priority projects list will be integral to funding principles for allocations this year as part of the 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan (CIP).



San Pablo Avenue multimodal corridor.

Additional staff actions include setting up a performance tracking tool for the CTP; advancing multimodal corridor efforts along San Pablo Avenue, East 14th and Mission Boulevard, the Bay Bridge Corridor and Interstate 580; advancing discussions around equity in our work; and strengthening partnerships for regional rail and clean emission technology. Also, in



Clean emission technology in use at the City of Fremont's Warm Springs BART Station.

March, staff attended an internal training session on the Safe Systems Approach, which aligns with a key focus of the CTP on transportation safety.

## Policy News

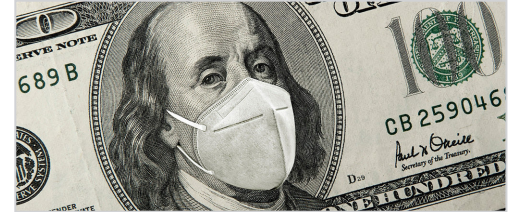
### Sacramento legislative visits

In February, Alameda CTC held virtual visits with state representatives. At those meetings staff shared the Commission's project and policy priorities for 2021, including the work being done to advance safety, jobs, equity, sustainable transportation and ensure accountability. The meetings included discussions of transportation projects and programs that prioritize safety and multimodal corridors, connectivity, congestion relief, transit and major interchange improvements, greenhouse gas reduction and COVID-19 relief.

Alameda CTC understands the importance of engaging legislators on infrastructure, land use, housing and workforce development – that is why Alameda CTC is returning to Sacramento with Chair Cutter and Vice Chair Bauters to meet with the chairs of the State Transportation Committees.

At Alameda CTC, delivery of projects and programs throughout the County is of the utmost importance. Continued

focus on securing capital and operating funding is paramount, in particular with the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic, to support of our transit agencies where transit ridership fell over 90 percent in Alameda County due to the pandemic.



### Upcoming Washington D.C. legislative visits

Later this year, Alameda CTC will visit Washington D.C. virtually to meet with House and Senate committees related to transportation, as well as a number of agencies under the U.S. Department of Transportation. With the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act coming into its five-year term, discussions are anticipated this spring regarding federal transportation policies, funding, and a new or extended surface transportation bill. Alameda CTC will actively participate in those discussions and advocate for policies and funding to support economic recovery and serve communities throughout Alameda County.



Aerial view of the National Mall from the Lincoln Memorial to the Washington Monument.



## Programming Updates

### Alameda CTC's 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan

Last month, Alameda CTC received 35 application requests totaling approximately \$38 million in response to the [2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan's \(2022 CIP\) call for projects](#).

This funding opportunity includes approximately \$26 million in combined 2000 Measure B, Vehicle Registration Fee and Transportation Fund for Clean Air discretionary program funds for bicycle/pedestrian and transit-related improvements. The next step will be to evaluate the applications and select projects that provide significant merits in terms of project readiness, needs/benefits and matching funding contributions. Alameda CTC staff will provide the Commission with a 2022 CIP programming recommendation in May 2021.

### COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant Program update

On July, 23, 2020, the Commission approved the release of the Measure B COVID-19 Rapid Response Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program (RRPG) to support local jurisdiction efforts to implement quick-build transportation measures to serve the present need for greater bicycle and pedestrian access through local community areas and business districts in light of social distancing guidelines.

On November 19, 2020, the Commission approved the COVID-19 RRGP and allocated \$904,000 to thirteen quick-build projects across the County, including healthy and slow street projects, bike/pedestrian access improvements and open spaces for business access ([see the List of Improvements](#)). Project sponsors have committed to implement their proposed improvements by March 31, 2021.

## Finance Updates

### Mid-year budget update

During February, the Finance team finalized mid-year budget updates for fiscal year (FY) 2020-21 for both Alameda CTC and the Sunol Smart Carpool Lane JPA (Sunol JPA), which will be going to their respective boards for approval in March. These updates are necessary to incorporate changes to beginning fund balances, based on audited ending fund balance information from FY 2019-20; to reflect roll over funding for capital projects; to recognize the effects on the budget of changes in project schedules; and to account for changes in other needs since original budgets were adopted in May 2020, such as the effects of COVID-19. This update does not include changes to sales tax revenue projections due to limited information received to date. An update to sales tax revenues will be brought to the Commission for approval when sufficient information is available.

In addition, the Finance team has produced quarterly financial and investment reports that will go to the Sunol JPA Board, the Finance and Administration Committee and the Commission for approval in March.

### Contracting opportunities

Alameda CTC anticipates upcoming solicitation of bids and/or proposals for the following contracts:

#### Professional Services contracts

- State Route 262 Cross Connector
- I-880 Interchanges Improvements
- Oakland Alameda Access Project
- I-680 Express Lanes Southbound Gap Closure
- I-580 Corridor Strategy
- East Bay Greenway

#### Construction

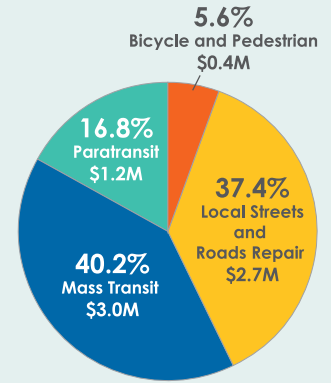
- State Route 84 Plant Establishment

For more information, visit the [Contracting Opportunities webpage](#).

## Transportation Investments

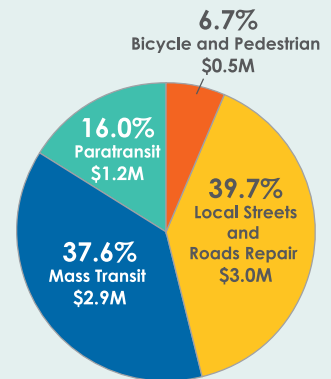
### Measure BB Program Distributions

Measure BB direct local distributions began in April 2015 and total over \$439.9 million; over \$7.3 million was distributed in December 2020.



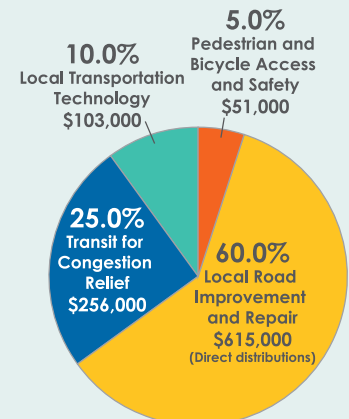
### Measure B Program Distributions

Measure B direct local distributions have totaled more than \$1.2 billion since 2002. In December 2020, over \$7.6 million was distributed for four programs.



### Vehicle Registration Fee

Since 2011, Alameda CTC has distributed more than \$69.4 million for local road repair; over \$1.0 million was collected in December 2020.



## Agency Activities

During March, Alameda CTC was scheduled to host, sponsor or participate in the following virtual events:



- BikeMobile virtual school events:
  - March 1-2 – Winton Middle School, Hayward
  - March 3 – Frederiksen Elementary School, Dublin
  - March 4-5 – Cesar Chavez Middle School, Hayward
  - March 8 – Owls Landing Apartments, Livermore; Cesar Chavez Middle School, Hayward
  - March 11 – Park Elementary School and Cesar Chavez Middle School, Hayward
  - March 12 – Cesar Chavez Middle School, Hayward
  - March 15-16, 18 – Cesar Chavez Middle School, Hayward
  - March 19 – Encompass Academy, Oakland; Cesar Chavez Middle School, Hayward
  - March 22-23 – Cesar Chavez Middle School, Hayward; Kolb Elementary School, Dublin
  - March 24 – Kolb Elementary School, Dublin
  - March 25 – Park Elementary School and Anthony W. Ochoa Middle School, Hayward
  - March 26 – Encompass Academy, Oakland
  - March 29-30 – Will C. Wood Middle School, Alameda
- March 2 – Golden Sneaker Contest virtual interview with Tess Lengyel, KPIX-TV
- March 13-20 – St. Patrick's Day Celebration, Dublin
- March 18 - 2021 Alameda County Transition Fair
- March 26 - Women's Council of Realtors and Bay East Association of Realtors, a virtual panel discussion

## Other News

### Alameda CTC Celebrates Women

In celebration of Women's History Month, Women in Construction Week and International Women's Day, Alameda CTC wants to commend **Chair Pauline Cutter** for her service as Chair of the



**Alameda CTC Chair Pauline Cutter, Mayor of the City of San Leandro.**

Alameda CTC Commission over the past fiscal year, in particular in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Her clear vision with regard to Active Transportation, Transit Oriented Development, housing and jobs, environmentally supportive and equity-focused investments and

programs, and new technologies for clean air and safe communities, keeps Alameda CTC purposeful in its efforts in making Alameda County more vibrant and livable.

Commissioners **Lily Mei** and **Sheng Thao** were honored at the Powerful Women of the Bay's 12th Annual Awards luncheon in celebration of contributions made by outstanding women in the San Francisco Bay Area – local innovators, entrepreneurs, creatives and trail blazers.

In addition, as **AC Transit** celebrates 60 years of service in the East Bay, they have been awarded the 2021 Employer of  the Year award by the WTS San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, an organization at the forefront of promoting the advancement of women in the transportation industry.

Our thanks to all of you and the impactful work that you do!

## Committee Activities

### March advisory committees

Highlights for March community advisory committees are as follows:

- March 4 – The [Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee \(ACTAC\)](#) received information on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Safe and Seamless Quick-Strike Program – a one-time competitive grant program that emphasizes bike/ped safety and mobility, connections to transit and projects that advance equitable mobility; updates on the Local Business Contract Equity Program; and shared information regarding implementation of the COVID-19 Rapid Response Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program.
- March 8 – The [Independent Watchdog Committee \(IWC\)](#) established their IWC Annual Report Subcommittee to create and finalize the IWC Annual Report. Members discussed next steps for Measure B and Measure BB Direct Local Distribution Audit and Compliance Reports. The committee also reviewed the sign-up roster for the Projects and Programs Watchlist, a volunteer list to watch specific Measure B- and BB-funded projects and programs.
- March 9 – The [Paratransit Technical Advisory Committee \(ParaTAC\)](#) members discussed usage of the Access Alameda website, the City program application questions, Covid-19 impacts on programs, TNC partnerships, mobility management and emergency preparedness and exchanged technical information.
- March 22 – a [Joint Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee \(PAPCO\) and Paratransit Technical Advisory Committee \(ParaTAC\)](#) meeting was held where committee members received a presentation on various Covid-19 recovery efforts from ADA-mandated services and City/community-based programs serving seniors and people with disabilities in Alameda County and beyond. Committee members had an opportunity to ask questions of the panel members and engage in further discussion.